

February 21, 2012



GED Tests Updates

OPT availability: For a fee, GED® Testing Service (GEDTS™) has made the OPT available online. However, it will not be accepted for the purpose of test readiness in Kentucky at this time.

Policy: For test readiness purposes, KYAE requires that the OPT be taken through an *authorized adult education program* or *Kentucky Educational Television (KET)*.

GED® Computer Based Testing Pilot: As you may know, GED® Testing Service (GEDTS™) is making the 2002 GED® tests series available through Computer Based Testing (CBT) starting January 1, 2012. States/jurisdictions continue to be responsible for approving GED® testing centers, which includes those centers that will administer the tests through CBT. Therefore, in order to begin to select appropriate locations and identify challenges, we have decided to conduct a pilot with Pearson VUE assessment centers that also currently offer the GED® tests via paper and pencil. We have contacted centers to ascertain their interest in the pilot and subsequently made arrangements with GEDTS™ to “get on their schedule” to implement the introduction of GED® CBT. We anticipate a tentative pilot start date of July 1, 2012 and will, initially, involve three (3) Pearson VUE assessment centers. Please remember that GEDTS™ (a partnership between Pearson VUE and American Council on Education) has priced the GED® CBT for the battery at \$120 and \$24 per test, which is a considerable increase from Kentucky’s paper-and-pencil-based fee of \$60 for the battery. We will continue to update you as we proceed.

Please note: GEDTS™’s GED® CBT for 2012 and 2013 will be *in addition* to Kentucky’s existing paper-and-pencil-based GED® testing. Paper-and-pencil-based GED® testing continues to be available for \$60 a battery.

News about the new edition of the GED® tests. As the GED® 2002 series draws to a close (2013), educators have asked for more resources that inform them of what the new tests will contain. Below please find a GEDTS™ announcement releasing “An Assessment Guide for Educators” that outlines assessment targets and content of the new GED® test series for educators.



You have questions about the new GED® assessment and now the development process has reached a stage where there are concrete answers. GED Testing Service is releasing *The Assessment Guide for Educators* to help you learn about the new assessment as well as involve the adult education community—starting now—to begin incorporating the new direction in their preparation programs.

The Assessment Guide for Educators is a comprehensive and definitive source about the new GED® test—providing an overview of the assessment, the assessment targets for each content area, description of cognitive levels, and item types—just to name a few topics covered by the *Guide*.

To make it easier to digest the material, the *Guide* will be released in three installments—the first installment is available immediately at www.GEDtestingservice.com/assessment. All you have to do is register to download the first and each subsequent chapter. You will also be invited to attend one of the four one-hour webinars focused on the first installment's content. Chapters 2 and 3 will be released on February 28 and March 13 respectively and will also have webinars to overview the content and, most importantly, to provide a forum for getting answers to any questions you may have. Additional resources will be available on the Web and you will have plenty of opportunities to hear more and engage with us at key national and local conferences this spring and summer.

If you have questions about content in the guide, we ask that you hold those until we make available the "Ask the Experts" function on our website after all three chapters of the Guide have been released. We may also be holding calls or forums during the month – so watch the website or sign up for "assessment alerts".

The introduction of a new test always involves changes—in what is taught and how the material is taught. The new GED® assessment that will launch in 2014 is no exception. At GED Testing Service, we are committed to ensuring that this critical information gets into the hands of everyone in adult education so your involvement and active participation is extremely important to us. We encourage you to forward this email to everyone in your network.

Martin D. Kehe
VP, Products
GED Testing Service

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GED Testing Service
1155 Connecticut Ave. NW - 4th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036

[Contact Us](#)

Jacqueline E. Korengel

Director, Strategic Initiatives; GED State Administrator
Kentucky Adult Education
Council on Postsecondary Education
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 250
Frankfort KY 40601

Office: (502) 573-5114, ext. 102

Cell:

Fax: (502) 573-5436

Jacqueline.Korengel@ky.gov

www.cpe.ky.gov

www.kyae.ky.gov